

Stephen C. Van Hedger

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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Associate Professor <i>Department of Psychology</i> <i>Huron University</i>	2025 - Present
Assistant Professor <i>Department of Psychology</i> <i>Huron University</i>	2020 - 2025
Member <i>Centre for Brain and Mind</i> <i>Western Institute for Neuroscience</i> <i>University of Western Ontario</i>	2020 - Present
Postdoctoral Fellow <i>Brain and Mind Institute</i> <i>Department of Psychology</i> <i>University of Western Ontario</i> <i>Advisors: Ingrid S. Johnsrude, Laura J. Batterink</i>	2018 - 2020
Postdoctoral Scholar <i>Chicago Center for Practical Wisdom</i> <i>Department of Psychology</i> <i>University of Chicago</i> <i>Advisors: Howard C. Nusbaum, Marc G. Berman</i>	2015 - 2018

EDUCATION

Ph.D., Psychology, University of Chicago <i>Advisor: Howard C. Nusbaum</i>	2015
A.M., Psychology, University of Chicago <i>Advisor: Howard C. Nusbaum</i>	2012
A.B., Music, University of Chicago General and Departmental Honors Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society	2009

GRANT SUPPORT

<p>SSHRC Insight Discovery Grant</p> <p><i>External</i></p> <p><u>Project Title:</u> Borderlands between Speech and Music: The Development, Validation, and Initial Testing of a Musical Speech Corpus</p> <p><u>Role:</u> Principal Investigator</p> <p><u>Amount:</u> \$61,681 CAD</p>	2024 - 2026
<p>Notre Dame Research (NDR) Grant</p> <p><i>Internal (University of Notre Dame)</i></p> <p><u>Project Title:</u> The Bittersweet Spot: How Musical Emotions Affect the Understanding of Life Events</p> <p><u>Role:</u> Co-Investigator (PI: Dr. Berthold Hoeckner)</p> <p><u>Amount:</u> \$100,000 USD</p>	2023 - 2026
<p>SSHRC Institutional Grant (SIG)</p> <p><i>Internal (Huron University)</i></p> <p><u>Project Title:</u> Demystifying Perfect Pitch through Citizen Science</p> <p><u>Role:</u> Principal Investigator</p> <p><u>Amount:</u> \$6,400 CAD</p>	2023 - 2024
<p>Huron Technology Support Fund</p> <p><i>Internal (Huron University)</i></p> <p><u>Project Title:</u> Developing a “Citizen Science” Website for Perfect Pitch</p> <p><u>Role:</u> Principal Investigator</p> <p><u>Amount:</u> \$2,312 CAD</p>	2022 - 2023
<p>CIHR Project Grant</p> <p><i>External</i></p> <p><u>Project Title:</u> The Cognitive Neuroscience of Listening Effort</p> <p><u>Role:</u> Co-Investigator (PIs: Dr. Bjorn Herrmann, Dr. Ingrid Johnsrude, Dr. Susan Scollie)</p> <p><u>Amount:</u> \$742,050 CAD</p>	2022 - 2027
<p>BrainsCAN Registered Report Fund</p> <p><i>Internal (University of Western Ontario)</i></p> <p><u>Project Title:</u> Characterizing Listening Effort in the Understanding of Noisy Speech</p> <p><u>Role:</u> Principal Investigator</p> <p><u>Amount:</u> \$7,400 CAD</p>	2021 - 2022
<p>SSHRC Institutional Grant (SIG)</p> <p><i>Internal (University of Western Ontario)</i></p> <p><u>Project Title:</u> Auditory category learning, memory, and generalization</p> <p><u>Role:</u> Co-Investigator (PI: Ingrid Johnsrude)</p> <p><u>Amount:</u> \$7,000 CAD</p>	2020 - 2021

Targeted Research Fund 2020 - 2021

Internal (Huron University)

Project Title: Engagement with Nature and Well-Being in the Age of COVID-19

Role: Principal Investigator

Amount: \$4,100 CAD

Division of Social Sciences Research Grant 2014 - 2015

Internal (University of Chicago)

Project Title: Neural correlates of absolute pitch categorization

Role: Principal Investigator

Amount: \$11,800 USD

Arts-Science Graduate Collaboration Grant 2010 - 2011

Internal (University of Chicago)

Project Title: The role of vibrotactile feedback in music performance

Role: Principal Investigator (Co-PIs: Jonathan De Souza, Shannon Heald)

Amount: \$1,500 USD

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

BrainsCAN Tier I Postdoctoral Fellowship Award 2018 - 2020

University of Western Ontario

\$70,000 CAD/year

Western Cognitive Neuroscience Postdoctoral Fund 2018 - 2020

University of Western Ontario

Brain and Mind Institute

\$50,000 CAD/year

John Dewey Prize Lectureship 2015

University of Chicago

Department of Psychology

\$5,000 USD

Starkey Duncan Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching 2014

University of Chicago

Department of Psychology

Norman H. Anderson Research Fellow 2011 - 2015

University of Chicago

Department of Psychology

Fulbright Program Finalist 2009 - 2010

United States Department of State

PUBLICATIONS

Google Scholar Metrics (as of December 15, 2025) Citations: 1204 h-index: 19 i10-index: 31

Peer-Reviewed Articles

- [1] Robinson, S., Platkin, R., Bobbit, S., **Van Hedger, S.C.**, & Bulter, B.E. (In Press). Objective and subjective measures of children's engagement with auditory narratives. *Journal of Speech, Language, and Hearing Research*.
- [2] Longman, D.P., **Van Hedger, S.C.**, McEwan, K., Griffin, E., Hannon, C., Harvey, I., Kikuta, T., Nickels, M., O'Donnell, E., Pham, V.A., Robinson, J., Slater, R., Szazvai, M., Williams, J., & Shaw, C.N. (2025). Forest soundscapes improve mood, restoration and cognition, but not physiological stress or immunity, relative to industrial soundscapes. *Scientific Reports*, 15, 33967. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-025-11469-x>
- [3] Thomson, J.S.H., & **Van Hedger, S.C.** (2025). Online mindfulness training improves metacognitive awareness but not cognitive performance among university students: A randomized longitudinal study. *Psychology International*, 7(3), 60. <https://doi.org/10.3390/psycholint7030060>
- [4] Whiteford, K.L., Baltzell, L.S., Chiu, M., Cooper, J.K., Faucher, S., Goh, P.Y., Hagedorn, A., Irsik, V.C., Irvine, A., Lim, S.J., Mesik, J.L., Mesquita, B., Oakes, B., Rajappa, N., Roverud, E., Schrlau, A.E., **Van Hedger, S.C.**, Bharadwaj, H.M., Johnsrude, I.S. ... Oxenham, A.J. (2025). Large-scale multi-site study shows no association between musical training and early auditory neural sound encoding. *Nature Communications*, 16, 7152. <https://doi.org/10.1101/2024.09.02.610856>
- [5] Ahmed, H., Van Hedger, K., Berman, M.G., & **Van Hedger, S.C.** (2025). Using degraded sounds to examine the relationship between cognitive restoration and preference. *Journal of Environmental Psychology*, 104, 102608. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jenvp.2025.102608>
- [6] Henry, M., Obleser, J., Crusey, M., Fuller, E.R., Lee, Y.S., Meyer, M., Acosta, E.A.M., **Van Hedger, S.C.**, Inbar, M., Oderbolz, C., Dunham, S.A., Anankul, Y., Sabo, L.E., Keitel, C., Maddox, R.K., Mehl, K., Aslan, G., Martens, P.A., Sauppe, S. ... Peelle, J. (2025). How strong is the rhythm of perception? A registered replication of Hickok, Farahbod, and Saberi (2015). *Royal Society Open Science*, 12, 220497. <https://doi.org/10.1098/rsos.220497>
- [7] Cormier, H., Tsang, C.D., & **Van Hedger, S.C.** (2025). The role of attention in inducing a musically induced visual motion aftereffect. *Attention, Perception, & Psychophysics*, 87, 480-497. <https://doi.org/10.3758/s13414-024-02985-5>
- [8] **Van Hedger, S.C.**, Jovanovic, K., Grenier, A., & Hoh, S.Y. (2025). Short-term pitch memory predicts both incidentally and intentionally acquired absolute pitch categories. *Memory & Cognition*. Advance online publication. <https://doi.org/10.3758/s13421-025-01686-0>
- [9] Babalola, O., Van Hedger, K. & **Van Hedger, S.C.** (2024). Misophonia is associated with heightened emotion evocation by music. *Current Psychology*, 43, 36294-36305. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12144-024-07050-w>

- [10] Bongiovanni, N., Chan, T.M.V., **Van Hedger, S.C.**, Findley, C., & Hoeckner, B. (2024). Pitch height and mode have asymmetrical effects on the perception of mixed emotions in major and minor seventh chords. *Psychology of Aesthetics, Creativity, and the Arts*. Advance online publication. <https://doi.org/10.1037/aca0000705>
- [11] Mathiesen, S.L., **Van Hedger, S.C.**, Irsik, V.C., Bain, M.M., Johnsrude, I.S., & Herrmann, B. (2024). Exploring age differences in absorption and enjoyment during story listening. *Psychology International*, 6, 667-684. <https://doi.org/10.3390/psycholint6020041>
- [12] **Van Hedger, S.C.**, Halpern, A.R., Vollweiler, D.J., Smith, E.E., & Pfordresher, P.Q. (2024). Is *Hey Jude* in the right key? Cognitive components of absolute pitch memory. *Memory & Cognition*, 52, 1142-1151. <https://doi.org/10.3758/s13421-024-01530-x>
- [13] Hull, K., Van Hedger, K., & **Van Hedger, S.C.** (2024). Absorption relates to individual differences in visual face pareidolia. *Current Psychology*, 43, 4458-4474. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12144-023-04670-6>
- [14] Sweet, S., **Van Hedger, S.C.**, & Batterink, L.J. (2024). Of words and whistles: Statistical learning operates similarly for identical sounds perceived as speech and non-speech. *Cognition*, 242, 105649. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cognition.2023.105649>
- [15] **Van Hedger, S.C.**, Bongiovanni, N., & Khudhair, H. (2023). Some like it sharp: Song familiarity influences musical preference for absolute tuning. *Psychology of Aesthetics, Creativity, and the Arts*. Advance online publication. <https://doi.org/10.1037/aca0000636>
- [16] **Van Hedger, S. C.**, & Bongiovanni, N. (2023). Widespread but limited in context: Absolute tuning judgments are disrupted by relative pitch cues. *Music & Science*, 6, <https://doi.org/10.1177/20592043231208626>
- [17] Schertz, K.E., Kotabe, H.P., Meidenbauer, K.L., Layden, E.A., Zhen, J., Bowman, J.E., Lakhtakia, T., Lyu, M., Paraschos, O.A., Janey, E.A., Samtani, A.L., Stier, A.J., Gehrke, K., **Van Hedger, S.C.**, Vohs, K.D., & Berman, M.G. (2023). Nature's path to thinking about others and the surrounding environment. *Journal of Environmental Psychology*, 89, 102046. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jenvp.2023.102046>
- [18] **Van Hedger, S.C.**, Bongiovanni, N., Heald, S.L.M., & Nusbaum, H.C. (2023). Absolute pitch judgments of familiar melodies generalize across timbre and octave. *Memory & Cognition*, 51, 1898-1910. <https://doi.org/10.3758/s13421-023-01429-z>
- [19] Bongiovanni, N., Heald, S.L.M., Nusbaum, H.C., & **Van Hedger, S.C.** (2023). Generalizing across tonal context, timbre, and octave in rapid absolute pitch training. *Attention, Perception, & Psychophysics*, 85, 525-542. <https://doi.org/10.3758/s13414-023-02653-0>
- [20] Alexander, E., **Van Hedger, S.C.**, & Batterink, L.J. (2023). Learning words without trying: Daily second language podcasts support word-form learning in adults. *Psychonomic Bulletin & Review*, 30, 751-762. <https://doi.org/10.3758/s13423-022-02190-1>

- [21] Schertz, K.E., Bowman, J.E., Kotabe, H.P., Layden, E.A., Zhen, J., Lakhtakia, T., Lyu, M., Paraschos, O.A., **Van Hedger, S.C.**, Rim, N.K., Vohs, K.D., & Berman, M.G. (2022). Environmental influences on affect and cognition: A study of natural and commercial semi-public spaces. *Journal of Environmental Psychology*, 101852, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jenvp.2022.101852>
- [22] Brancato, G., Van Hedger, K., Berman, M.G., & **Van Hedger, S.C.** (2022). Simulated nature walks improve psychological well-being along a natural to urban continuum. *Journal of Environmental Psychology*, 101779, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jenvp.2022.101779>
- [23] Dumas, T.M., Ellis, W.E., **Van Hedger, S.C.**, Litt, D.M., & MacDonald, M. (2022). Lockdown, bottoms up? Changes in adolescent substance use across the COVID-19 pandemic. *Addictive Behaviours*, 131, 107326. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.addbeh.2022.107326>
- [24] Heald, S.L.M., **Van Hedger, S.C.**, Veillette, J., Reis, K., Snyder, J.S., & Nusbaum, H.C. (2022). Going beyond rote auditory learning: Neural patterns of generalized auditory learning. *Journal of Cognitive Neuroscience*, 34, https://doi.org/10.1162/jocn_a_01805
- [25] **Van Hedger, S.C.**, Johnsrude, I.S., & Batterink, L.J. (2022). Musical instrument familiarity affects statistical learning of tone sequences. *Cognition*, 218, 104949. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cognition.2021.104949>
- [26] Reis, K.S., Heald, S.L.M., Veillette, J.P., **Van Hedger, S.C.**, & Nusbaum, H.C. (2021). Individual differences in human frequency-following response predict pitch labeling ability. *Scientific Reports*, 11, 14290, <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-021-93312-7>
- [27] **Van Hedger, S.C.**, Veillette, J.P., Heald, S.L.M., & Nusbaum, H.C. (2020). Revisiting continuous versus discrete models of human behavior: The case of absolute pitch. *PLoS One*, <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0244308>
- [28] Uddin, S., Reis, K., **Van Hedger, S.C.**, Heald, S.L.M., & Nusbaum, H.C. (2020). Cortical mechanisms of talker normalization in fluent sentences. *Brain & Language*, 201, 104722. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.bandl.2019.104722>
- [29] **Van Hedger, S.C.**, Heald, S.L.M., & Nusbaum, H.C. (2019). Absolute pitch can be learned by some adults. *PLoS One*, <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0223047>
- [30] Zhen, A., **Van Hedger, S.C.**, Heald, S.L.M., Goldin-Meadow, S., & Tian, X. (2019). Manual directional gestures facilitate cross-modal perceptual learning. *Cognition*, 187, 178-187. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cognition.2019.03.004>
- [31] **Van Hedger, S.C.**, Nusbaum, H.C., Clohisy, L., Jaeggi, S.M., Buschkuhl, M., & Berman, M.G. (2019). Of cricket chirps and car horns: The effect of nature sounds on cognitive performance. *Psychonomic Bulletin & Review*, 26, 522-530. <https://doi.org/10.3758/s13423-018-1539-1>
- [32] **Van Hedger, S.C.**, Nusbaum, H.C., Heald, S.L.M., Huang, A., Kotabe, H., & Berman, M.G. (2019). The aesthetic preference for nature sounds depends on sound object recognition. *Cognitive Science*, 43, e12734. <https://doi.org/10.1111/cogs.12734>

- [33] Stenfors, C., **Van Hedger, S.C.** ... Berman, M.G. (2019). Positive effects of nature on cognitive performance across multiple experiments: Test order but not affect modulates the cognitive effects. *Frontiers in Psychology, 10*:1413. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fpsyg.2019.01413>
- [34] **Van Hedger, S.C.**, & Nusbaum, H.C. (2018). Individual differences in absolute pitch performance: Contributions of working memory, musical expertise, and tonal language background. *Acta Psychologica, 191*, 251-260. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.actpsy.2018.10.007>
- [35] **Van Hedger, S.C.**, Heald, S.L.M., Uddin, S., & Nusbaum, H.C. (2018). A note by any other name: Intonation context rapidly influences absolute note judgments. *Journal of Experimental Psychology: Human Perception & Performance, 44*, 1268-1282. <https://doi.org/10.1037/xhp0000536>
- [36] Uddin, S., Heald, S.L.M., **Van Hedger, S.C.**, & Nusbaum, H.C. (2018). Hearing sounds as words: Neural responses to environmental sounds in the context of fluent speech. *Brain & Language, 179*, 51-61. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.bandl.2018.02.004>
- [37] Nusbaum, H.C., Uddin, S., **Van Hedger, S.C.**, & Heald, S.L.M. (2018). Consolidating skill learning through sleep. *Current Opinion in Behavioral Sciences, 20*, 174-182. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cobeha.2018.01.013>
- [38] Uddin, S., Heald, S.L.M., **Van Hedger, S.C.**, Klos, S., & Nusbaum, H.C. (2018). Understanding environmental sounds in sentence context. *Cognition, 172*, 134-143. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cognition.2017.12.009>
- [39] **Van Hedger, S.C.**, Heald, S.L.M., & Nusbaum, H.C. (2018). Long-term pitch memory for music recordings is related to auditory working memory precision. *The Quarterly Journal of Experimental Psychology, 71*, 879-891. <https://doi.org/10.1080/17470218.2017.1307427>
- [40] **Van Hedger, S.C.**, Heald, S.L.M., Huang, A., Rutstein, B., & Nusbaum, H.C. (2017). Telling in-tune from out-of-tune: Widespread evidence for implicit absolute intonation. *Psychonomic Bulletin & Review, 24*, 481-488. <https://doi.org/10.3758/s13423-016-1099-1>
- [41] Heald, S.L.M., **Van Hedger, S.C.**, & Nusbaum, H.C. (2017). Perceptual plasticity for auditory object recognition. *Frontiers in Psychology, 8*, 781. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fpsyg.2017.00781>
- [42] **Van Hedger, S.C.**, Heald, S.L.M., & Nusbaum, H.C. (2016). What the [bleep]? Enhanced absolute pitch memory for a 1000 Hz sine tone. *Cognition, 154*, 139-150. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cognition.2016.06.001>
- [43] **Van Hedger, S.C.**, Heald, S.L.M., & Nusbaum, H.C. (2015). The effects of acoustic variability on absolute pitch categorization: Evidence of contextual tuning. *Journal of the Acoustical Society of America, 138*(1), 436-446. <https://doi.org/10.1121/1.4922952>
- [44] **Van Hedger, S.C.**, Heald, S.L.M., Koch, R., & Nusbaum, H.C. (2015). Auditory working memory predicts individual differences in absolute pitch learning. *Cognition, 140*, 95-110. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cognition.2015.03.012>
- [45] **Van Hedger, S.C.**, Palmer, C., Hogstrom, A., & Nusbaum, H.C. (2015). Sleep consolidation of musical competence. *Music Perception, 33*(2), 163-178. <https://doi.org/10.1525/mp.2015.33.2.163>

- [46] Heald, S.L.M., **Van Hedger, S.C.**, & Nusbaum, H.C. (2014). Auditory category knowledge in experts and novices. *Frontiers in Neuroscience*, 8, 260. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fnins.2014.00260>
- [47] **Hedger, S.C.**, Nusbaum, H.C., Lescop, O., Wallisch, P., & Hoeckner, B. (2013). Music can elicit a visual motion aftereffect. *Attention, Perception, & Psychophysics*, 75(5), 1039-1047. <https://doi.org/10.3758/s13414-013-0443-z>
- [48] **Hedger, S.C.**, Heald, S.L.M., & Nusbaum, H.C. (2013). Absolute pitch may not be so absolute. *Psychological Science*, 24(8), 1496-1502. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0956797612473310>
- [49] **Hedger, S. C.**, Nusbaum, H.C., & Hoeckner, B. (2013). Conveying movement in music and prosody. *PLoS One*, 8(10), e76744. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0076744>

Preprints

- [1] Rovetti, J., Johnsrude, I.S., & **Van Hedger, S.C.** (2025). The cognitive architecture of degraded speech intelligibility. *PsyArXiv*, https://doi.org/10.31234/osf.io/gm6wv_v1
- [2] Clarke, M., Tong, N., Van Hedger, K., & **Van Hedger, S.C.** (2025). Absorption facilitates nature-related restoration from spoken stories. *PsyArXiv*, https://doi.org/10.31234/osf.io/u79jr_v1
- [3] Zhao, Y. & **Van Hedger, S.C.** (2025). The effects of binaural beats on attention, reading comprehension, and mood. *PsyArXiv*, https://doi.org/10.31234/osf.io/jk27g_v1
- [4] **Van Hedger, S.C.**, Winspear, M., & Batterink, L.J. (2021). Talker variability facilitates the statistical learning of speech sounds. *PsyArXiv*, <https://doi.org/10.31234/osf.io/t8eyh>

Book Chapters and Encyclopedia Entries

- [1] **Van Hedger, S.C.**, & Maheshwari, U. (2025). Music and Language in the Brain: Balancing Domain-Specific and Domain-General Mechanisms. In E. Andrews (Ed.) *Cambridge Handbook of Language and Brain*. Cambridge University Press. <https://doi.org/10.1017/9781009202336>
- [2] **Van Hedger, S.C.**, & Johnsrude, I.S. (2022). Speech perception under adverse listening conditions. In A. Popper, A. Coffin (Eds.), *Springer Handbook of Auditory Research*. Springer, Cham. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-81542-4_6
- [3] **Van Hedger, S.C.**, & Nusbaum, H.C. (2018). Absolute pitch. In: J. Vonk, T. K. Shackelford (Eds.), *Encyclopedia of Animal Cognition and Behavior*. Springer, Cham.
- [4] Heald, S.L.M., **Van Hedger, S.C.**, & Nusbaum, H.C. (2017). Understanding sound: Auditory skill acquisition. *Psychology of Learning and Motivation*, 67, 53-93.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Current Courses, Huron University

PSYCHOL 1100E: Method in General Psychology*	2020 - 2023
PSYCHOL 2115A: Introduction to Sensation and Perception	2020
PSYCHOL 2130E: Method in Sensation and Perception	2023
PSYCHOL 2750E: Theories and Methods of Cognitive Neuroscience	2021
PSYCHOL 2830A: Research in Psychology	2025
PSYCHOL 3131F**: Music Cognition	2020, 2022, 2023
PSYCHOL 3696G: Dynamics of Mentorship in Psychology Research*	2023
PSYCHOL 4880E: Honors Thesis*	2020 - 2023

* Team-taught course

** Also taught under PSYCHOL 3760F/G

Previous Courses

SOSC 14100: Mind - I (University of Chicago)	2012+, 2013
SOSC 14200: Mind - II (University of Chicago)	2013+, 2014
SOSC 14300: Mind - III (University of Chicago)	2013+
PSYC 20200: Psychological Research Methods (University of Chicago)	2014+
PSYC 20700: Sensation and Perception (University of Chicago)	2014+
PSYC 24860: The Musical Mind (University of Chicago)	2015

+ Teaching Assistant

Guest Lectures

PSYCHOL 4195F: Special Topics in Cognitive Psychology (University of Western Ontario) Lecture Title: "Perceptual learning of absolute pitch in adulthood"	2021, 2022
PSYCHOL 2115A: Introduction to Sensation and Perception (University of Western Ontario) Lecture Title: "How does sleep influence perceptual processes?"	2019
COMMSCI 4417A: Introduction to Hearing Science (University of Western Ontario) Lecture Title: "Perceptual Organization of Music"	2018
PSY 210: Introduction to Psychological Science (Elmhurst College) Lecture Title: "Does this Taylor Swift sound sharp? Exploring pitch memory in the general population"	2014

MENTORSHIP EXPERIENCE

Undergraduate Honors Thesis Advising

- [1] Alexa Bouchard
Huron University
Title: Neural correlates of face perception for real and illusory faces
- [2] Lucas Hardie (2024-25)
Huron University
Title: Predicting intended audience from acoustic parameters in a large audiobook corpus
- [3] Noah Hendricks-Polack (2024-25)
Huron University
Title: Individual differences in the statistical learning of tonal sequences
- [4] Katarina Jovanovic (2024-25)
Huron University
Title: Memory for degraded speech: Effects of noise level
- [5] Carson Kiriakopoulos (2024-25)
Huron University
Title: Musical mode perception
- [6] Lauren Perry (2024-25)
Huron University
Title: Influence of alcohol and nonmedical drug use on absolute pitch perception
- [7] Yujia Zhao (2024-25)
Huron University
Title: Effects of binaural beats on cognitive functions
- [8] Ethan Axler (2023-24)
Huron University
Title: An investigation of the effects of suggestion in auditory memory: How much do humans really like the sound of our voice?
- [9] Omolewa Babalola (2023-24)
Huron University
Title: Understanding the relationship between misophonia and musical memory, emotion, and categorization
- [10] Morgan Clarke (2023-24)
Huron University
Title: Environmental narratives and psychological restoration: An immersive experience
- [11] Natalie Tong (2023-24)
Huron University
Title: The role of mindfulness in experiencing restoration from spoken narratives describing nature
- [12] Mark Dunlop (2022-23)
Huron University
Title: Effects of age, need for cognition, and cognitive fatigue on statistical learning
- [13] André Grenier (2022-23)
Huron University
Title: Assessing the effectiveness of different training paradigms in pitch categorization
- [14] Jordan Thomson (2022-23)
Huron University
Title: Effects of an auditory-based 15-minute daily online mindfulness intervention on cognitive processing, socio-affective functioning, and dispositional mindfulness

- [15] Evan Smith (2022-23)
Huron University
Title: Tonal working memory and singing ability relate to individual differences in long-term memory for musical pitch
- [16] Huda Ahmed (2021-2022)
Huron University
Title: The influence of sound quality on the restorative benefits of nature
- [17] Hannah Cormier (2020-2021)
Huron University
Title: The role of attention in inducing cross-modal aftereffects
- [18] Giuliana Brancato (2020-2021)
Huron University
Title: Virtual walks through nature and increased well-being
- [19] Amish Gaur (2020-2021)
University of Western Ontario
Title: The effects of degraded speech on long-term memory in individuals with mild-moderate sensorineural hearing loss
- [20] Mykayla Winspear (2019-2020)
University of Western Ontario
Title: The influence of talker variability on statistical learning
- [21] Mackenzie Bacon (2018-2019)
University of Western Ontario
Title: Memory for words and sentences: The effect of acoustical degradation
- [22] Luke Clohisy (2017-2018)
University of Chicago
Title: Memory for popular music: Evidence for widespread tempo abilities and implicit pitch categories
- [23] Max Bluestone (2015- 2016)
University of Chicago
Title: The effects of semantic and temporal congruency on memory for audiovisual clips
- [24] Anders Hogstrom (2012-2013)
University of Chicago
Title: The sound of silence: Attention entrainment to isochronous and syncopated beats

PhD Advising

- [1] Joseph Rovetti (2023 - Present)
University of Western Ontario
Co-Supervised with Ingrid S. Johnsrude

Huron Auditory Perception (HAP) Lab Mentorship

Role: Principal Investigator

- | | |
|--|--|
| [1] Ethan Axler (2021 - 2024) * | [12] Katherine Hull (2021 - 2022) * |
| [2] Omolewa Babalola (2022 - 2024) * + | [13] Katarina Jovanovic (2023 - Present) * |
| [3] Noah Bongiovanni (2020 - 2024) * | [14] Huda Khudhair (2021 - 2023) * |
| [4] Alexa Bouchard (2023 - Present) | [15] Noor El Madani (2024 - Present) |
| [5] Georgia Bubel (2024- Present) | [16] Monika Nguyen (2022 - 2024) |
| [6] Eden Brown (2023 - Present) | [17] Irina Petrovic (2020 - 2022) |
| [7] Amish Gaur (2020 - 2022) | [18] Evan Smith (2022 - Present) * |
| [8] André Grenier (2022 - 2023) * | [19] Jordan Thomson (2022 - 2023) * + |
| [9] Lucas Hardie (2023 - Present) | [20] Natalie Tong (2022 - 2024) * |

- [10] Noah Hendricks-Polack (2024 – Present) + [21] Michelle Tu (2021 – 2022)
 [11] Austyn (Sum Yee) Hoh (2023 - Present) * [22] Hebe Wong (2022 - 2023)

* Co-author on preprint or peer-reviewed journal article

+ Centre for Undergraduate Research Learning (CURL) Fellowship Winner

Additional Mentorship Experience

- [1] **Science Research Program Mentor** 2023
Fox Lane High School
 Worked one-on-one with a high school student to develop a research project related to absolute pitch and tonal language experience.
- [2] **Practicum Advisor, Master's Program in Computer Science** 2015 - 2016
University of Chicago
 Advised two master's students in the design and execution of psychophysical projects.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Ad-Hoc Journal Reviewer

Acta Psychologica | Annals of the New York Academy of Sciences | Applied Acoustics | Attention, Perception, & Psychophysics | Behavior Research Methods | Behavioral Sciences | Behavioural Brain Sciences | Biological Rhythm Research | Brain and Language | Brain Sciences | Cities & Health | Collabra: Psychology | Communications Psychology | Cognitive Science | Cortex | Current Directions in Psychological Science | Current Psychology | eLife | European Journal of Education | Experimental Psychology | Frontiers in Neuroscience | Heliyon | Humanities & Social Sciences Communications | iScience | Journal of Environmental Psychology | Journal of Neurolinguistics | Journal of Experimental Psychology: General | Journal of Experimental Psychology: Learning, Memory, and Cognition | Memory | Music & Science | Music Perception | Neuropsychologia | Neuroscience & Biobehavioral Reviews | Neuroscience of Consciousness | OpenMind | PLOS One | PsyCh Journal | Psychology of Music | Psychonomic Bulletin & Review | Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences | Proceedings of the Royal Society B | Royal Society Open Science | Scientific Reports | Social Cognitive and Affective Neuroscience | Symmetry | The Journal of the Acoustical Society of America | Trends in Hearing | Urban Forestry & Urban Greening | Youth & Society

Grant Reviewer

Israel Science Foundation (ISF)

Editorial Experience

- [1] Guest Editor: *Frontiers in Psychology*
 Topic: "Active Cognitive Processing for Auditory Perception"
- [2] Editorial Board Member: *STEM Fellowship Journal*

Leadership Roles

- [1] Member, Program Committee (2023-2024)
 Biennial Conference of the Society for Music Perception and Cognition
 Banff, Alberta, Canada
- [2] Member-At-Large (2021 – 2023)
 Executive Board of the Society for Music Perception and Cognition

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

The Society for Music Perception and Cognition | The Psychonomic Society | Association for Research in Otolaryngology | The Association for Psychological Science | The Acoustical Society of America | The American Psychological Association | Sigma Xi (Full Member)

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

Departmental Service

- | | | |
|-----|---|----------------|
| [1] | Coordinator, Psychology Course Research Credit System | 2023 - Present |
| [2] | Course Coordinator, PSYCHOL 1100E | 2022 - 2024 |

Graduate Student Committee Work

- | | | |
|------|---|----------------|
| [1] | University Examiner, M.Sc. Defense (Rafaela Platkin)
<i>University of Western Ontario</i> | 2025 |
| [2] | Comprehensive Examiner (Ramkumar Jagadeesan)
<i>University of Western Ontario</i> | 2025 |
| [3] | Comprehensive Examiner (Bruno Mesquita)
<i>University of Western Ontario</i> | 2025 |
| [4] | External Ph.D. Examiner (Jane Bairnsfather)
<i>The University of Melbourne</i> | 2024 |
| [5] | M.Sc. Graduate Advisory Committee Member (Adam Cotton)
<i>University of Western Ontario</i> | 2023 - 2024 |
| [6] | External Ph.D. Examiner (Samuel Leak)
<i>Cambridge University</i> | 2023 |
| [7] | Comprehensive Examiner (Cailey Salagovic)
<i>University of Western Ontario</i> | 2023 |
| [8] | Ph.D. Graduate Advisory Committee Member (Bruno Mesquita)
<i>University of Western Ontario</i> | 2022 - Present |
| [9] | University Examiner, M.Sc. Defense (Sarah Berger)
<i>University of Western Ontario</i> | 2022 |
| [10] | M.Sc. Graduate Advisory Committee Member (Bruno Mesquita)
<i>University of Western Ontario</i> | 2020 - 2022 |
| [11] | University Examiner, Ph.D. Defense (Avital Sternin)
<i>University of Western Ontario</i> | 2021 |

University Committee Work

- | | | |
|-----|---|----------------|
| [1] | Member-At-Large, Huron Centre for Undergraduate Research Learning | 2024 - Present |
| [2] | Huron University Research Committee | 2021 - 2023 |
| [3] | Huron University Teaching and Learning Committee | 2021 - 2024 |
| [4] | University of Chicago Travel and Research Committee | 2010 - 2014 |

Speaking Engagements

- | | | |
|-----|---|------|
| [1] | Mock Lecture, Mother Theresa Catholic Secondary School "Huron, Here We Come"
<i>Huron University</i>
Title: "What can perceptual illusions tell us about psychology?" | 2025 |
|-----|---|------|

- [2] Panelist, "Excelling in the Classroom: Tips from Your Future Professors"
Huron University 2025
- [3] Panelist, "Huron's Unique Approach to Teaching & Experiential Learning"
Huron University 2024
- [4] Mock Lecture, Spring Preview Day
Huron University 2024
Title: "What can perceptual illusions tell us about psychology?"
- [5] Panelist, HeadStart 2023
Huron University 2023
Topic: "How to apply to graduate school"
- [6] Scotiabank Scholars Sample Lecture
Huron University 2022, 2023
Title: "What makes a leader with heart? Insights from psychology"
- [7] Panelist, Spring Open House
Huron University 2022
Topic: "Where do you find community in a world of technology?"
- [8] Panelist, Centre for Undergraduate Research Learning Spring Conference
Huron University 2022
Topic: "Undergraduate research, mentorship, and collaboration"

Additional University Service

- [1] **Fulbright Scholarship Interviewer** 2012 - 2018
University of Chicago
Annually reviewed between 4-7 applications for Fulbright Scholarships and submit recommendations to the university.
- [2] **PRISM Psychology Graduate Student Preceptor** 2012 - 2014
University of Chicago
Planned approximately 7 events each academic year to help students become involved in research and explore post-graduation opportunities.
- [3] **Council on Advanced Studies Workshop Coordinator** 2011 - 2012
University of Chicago
Organized biweekly presentations of music perception research given by graduate students, faculty, and external speakers.

SELECTED CONFERENCE TALKS

- [1] **Van Hedger, S.C., & Grénier, A.* (2024).** Assessing the Efficacy of a Gamified Approach to Training Absolute Pitch Categories. *Biennial Meeting of the Society for Music Perception and Cognition*, Banff, AB.
- [2] **Van Hedger, S.C., Bongiovanni, N., Heald, S.L.M., & Nusbaum, H.C. (2023).** Absolute pitch judgments of familiar melodies generalize across timbre and octave. *Midwest Cognitive Science Conference*, Grand Rapids, MI.

- [3] **Van Hedger, S.C., & Johnsrude, I.S.** (2020). Understanding different forms of degraded speech as an auditory skill. *43rd Annual Midwinter Meeting of the Association for Research in Otolaryngology*, San Jose, CA
- [4] **Van Hedger, S.C., Heald, S.L.M., & Nusbaum, H.C.** (2019). Robust absolute pitch memory in the general population: Evidence from popular melodies. *Society for Music Perception and Cognition Conference*. New York University, New York, NY
- [5] **Van Hedger, S.C., Heald, S.L., Koch, R., Nusbaum, H.C.** (2015). Auditory working memory predicts individual differences in absolute pitch learning: Evidence from short- and long-term training. *Society for Music Perception and Cognition Conference*. Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN
- [6] **Van Hedger, S.C., Heald, S.L., Nusbaum, H.C.** (2015). Incidental absolute pitch learning in an interactive multi-modal environment. *Acoustical Society of America 170th Meeting*. Jacksonville, FL
- [7] **Hedger, S.C., Heald, S.L., Nusbaum, H.C.** (2013). Absolute pitch may not be so absolute. *Society for Music Perception and Cognition Conference*. Ryerson University, Toronto, ON
- [8] **Hedger, S.C., Klos, S., Nusbaum, H.C.** (2013). Individual differences in the short- and long-term training of musical pitch. *Midwest Music Cognition Symposium*. The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH
- [9] **Hedger, S.C., Hoeckner, B., Nusbaum, H.C.** (2011). Music Can Convey Movement like Prosody in Speech. *Society for Music Perception and Cognition Conference*. Eastman School of Music, Rochester, NY
- [10] **Hedger, S.C., Heald, S.L., DeSouza, J., Hoeckner, B., Nusbaum, H.C.** (2011). The Role of Vibrotactile Input in Musical Performance. *Franke Institute for the Humanities*. The University of Chicago, Chicago, IL
- [11] **Hedger, S.C., Hoeckner, B., Nusbaum, H.C.** (2011). The Sound of Motion in Music. *Midwest Cognitive Science Meeting*. Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI

SELECTED POSTER PRESENTATIONS

- [1] Rovetti, J.* Johnsrude, I.S., & **Van Hedger, S.C.** (2025). The cognitive architecture of degraded speech understanding. *Annual Meeting of the Psychonomic Society*, Denver, CO.
- [2] Babalola, O.*, Van Hedger, K., & **Van Hedger, S.C.** (2024). Misophonia is associated with heightened emotion evocation by music. *Annual Meeting of the Psychonomic Society*, New York, NY.
- [3] Hoh, S.*, Jovanovic, K.*, & **Van Hedger, S.C.** (2024). Short-Term Pitch Memory Explains Variance in Both Incidental and Explicit Absolute Pitch Representations. *Biennial Meeting of the Society for Music Perception and Cognition*, Banff, AB.

- [4] **Van Hedger, S.C.**, Halpern, A.R., Vollweiler, D.J., Smith, E.*, & Pfordresher, P.Q. (2023). Is *Hey Jude* in the right key? Cognitive and sensorimotor components of absolute pitch memory. *Annual Meeting of the Psychonomic Society*, San Francisco, CA.
- [5] Bongiovanni, N.*, Heald, S.L.M., Nusbaum, H.C., & **Van Hedger, S.C.** (2023). Generalizing across tonal context, timbre, and octave in rapid absolute pitch training. *Midwest Cognitive Science Conference*, Grand Rapids, MI.
- [6] **Van Hedger, S.C.**, & Batterink, L.J. (2022). Talker variability influences the statistical learning of speech. *Annual Meeting of the Psychonomic Society*, Boston, MA
- [7] **Van Hedger, S.C.**, & Khudhair, H.* (2021). Does tuning influence aesthetic judgments of music? Investigating the generalizability of absolute intonation ability. *Annual Meeting of the Psychonomic Society*, (virtual)
- [8] Cormier, H.*, Tsang, C.D., & **Van Hedger, S.C.**, (2021). Musical scales can elicit visual motion aftereffects outside of the scope of attention. *Auditory Perception, Cognition, and Action Meeting*. (virtual)
- [9] **Van Hedger, S.C.**, Johnsrude, I.S., & Batterink, L.J. (2020). Prior real-world experience influences non-linguistic statistical learning. *Annual Meeting of the Psychonomic Society*, Austin, TX (virtual)
- [10] **Van Hedger, S.C.**, Heald, S.L.M., Nusbaum, H.C., Batterink, L.J., Davis, M.H., & Johnsrude, I.S. (2019). Learning different forms of degraded speech as a cognitive skill. *Annual Meeting of the Psychonomic Society*, Montreal, QC
- [11] **Van Hedger, S.C.**, Heald, S.L.M., & Nusbaum, H.C. (2019). Neural bases of note normalization in absolute pitch. *13th Annual Canadian Neuroscience Meeting*, Toronto, ON
- [12] **Van Hedger, S.C.**, & Nusbaum, H.C. (2019). Individual differences in absolute pitch performance: Contributions of working memory, musical expertise, and tonal language background. *42nd Annual Midwinter Meeting of the Association for Research in Otolaryngology*, Baltimore, MD
- [13] **Van Hedger, S.C.**, & Nusbaum, H.C. (2018). Individual differences in absolute pitch performance: Contributions of working memory, musical expertise, and tonal language background. *Annual Meeting of the Psychonomic Society*, New Orleans, LA
- [14] **Van Hedger, S.C.**, Heald, S.L.M., Huang, A., Rutstein, B., & Nusbaum, H.C. (2016). Telling in-tune from out-of-tune: Widespread evidence for implicit absolute intonation. *Annual Meeting of the Psychonomic Society*, Boston, MA
- [15] **Van Hedger, S.C.**, Heald, S.L., Wu, S., & Nusbaum, H.C. (2015). Judging the absolute pitch of novel recordings of familiar songs. *Annual Meeting of the Psychonomic Society*, Chicago, IL
- [16] **Van Hedger, S.C.**, Heald, S.L., Nusbaum, H.C. (2015). The effects of acoustic variability on absolute pitch categorization: Evidence for contextual tuning. *Acoustical Society of America 170th Meeting*. Jacksonville, FL

- [17] **Hedger, S.C.**, Nusbaum, H.C., Lescop, O., Wallisch, P., Hoeckner, B. (2013). Music can elicit a visual motion aftereffect: Evidence from behavior and fMRI. *Auditory Cognitive Neuroscience Society Meeting*, Tucson, AZ
- [18] **Hedger, S.C.**, Heald, S.L., Nusbaum, H.C. (2012). Absolute pitch may not be so absolute. *Annual Meeting of the Psychonomic Society*, Minneapolis, MN
- [19] **Hedger, S.C.**, Nusbaum, H.C., Lescop, O., Wallisch, P., Hoeckner, B. (2012). Music can elicit a visual motion aftereffect. *Association for Psychological Science Convention*, Chicago, IL
- [20] **Hedger, S.C.**, Palmer, C., Hogstrom, A., Nusbaum, H.C. (2012). The effects of sleep-dependent consolidation on motoric and abstract learning in music. *Midwest Cognitive Science Meeting*. Indiana University, Bloomington, IN

* Trainee

WORKSHOPS

- [1] **HAP Lab Public Workshops** (*Huron University*)
Title: "Getting Started with jsPsych"
Video tutorial series, publicly available on YouTube
- [2] **BrainsCAN Computational Core Methods Lunch** (*University of Western Ontario*)
Title: "An introduction to running web-based experiments using PsychoPy, jsPsych, and Pavlovia"
Co-Presenter: J. Paul Minda
- [3] **Nissl Lab Group** (*University of Western Ontario*)
Title: "Best practices in conducting auditory experiments over the web"

INVITED TALKS

- [1] **Van Hedger, S.C.** (2024). Exploring the nature of pitch representations in the general population. *Charity Chords Melodic Minds Speaker Series*. University of Western Ontario. London, ON
- [2] **Van Hedger, S.C.** (2023). Absolute pitch memory in adulthood. *Charity Chords Melodic Minds Speaker Series*. University of Western Ontario. London, ON
- [3] **Van Hedger, S.C.** (2021). Memory for absolute pitch in the general population. *Eastman/Rochester/Cornell/Buffalo Music Cognition Symposium*. Eastman School of Music. Rochester, NY
- [4] **Van Hedger, S.C.** (2020). Perceptual understanding in a variable world: Insights from music and speech. Huron University. London, ON

- [5] **Van Hedger, S.C.** (2020). What can pop songs tell us about representations of musical pitch? *Graduate Student Colloquium*. University of Western Ontario. London, ON
- [6] **Van Hedger, S.C.** (2019). Absolute pitch can be trained in some high-auditory working memory adults. *The 5th Learning and Plasticity (LaP) Meeting*. Äkäslompola, Finland
- [7] **Van Hedger, S.C.** (2016). Pitch memory in adulthood: Individual differences, generalizations, and abstractions. *Musical Learning across the Lifespan Workshop*. University of Western Ontario. London, ON
- [8] **Van Hedger, S.C.** (2015). Telling sharp from flat: Pitch memory in the general population. DePauw University. Greencastle, IN
- [9] **Van Hedger, S.C.** (2015). Developing a framework for musical understanding. The University of Chicago. Chicago, IL